(d) whether there have been any funds sanctioned for the two units, if so, to what extent; and

(e) what is the plan for re-opening of closed fertilizer factories in the rest of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Pursuant to the Government's decision to examine the feasibility of revival of the closed units of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. (HFCL) subject to the confirmed availability of gas, various options for revival of the closed units including the Durgapur and Haldia Units are being examined. The details will be worked out once the proposals for revival of each individual units are finalized.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) In view of (a) to (c) above, question does not arise.

(e) The plan is as indicated at (a) and (b) above.

Control on life saving drugs

†804. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating to bring life saving drugs under its control; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the names of drugs which are being considered for inclusion in the list of life saving drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the directions of the Supreme Court it has been proposed in the draft National Pharmaceuticals Policy-2006 that basket of drugs for price control would be the essential medicines as contained in the National List of Essential Medicines, 2003 (NLEM 2003) (subject to certain exemptions) in addition to the 74 bulk drugs which are at present under price control under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1995.

Details of medicines in NLEM,2003 is available at website www.cdsco.nic.in

Shortage of fertilizers

805. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of fertilizers in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that production of fertilizers in the country has gone down following closure of some plants; and

(d) the steps Government has taken to address the problem?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) The availability of major fertilizers *viz.*, Urea, DAP and MOP in the country during Kharif 2008 has been over and above the assessed requirement / sales as under:

(Qty. in LMT)

Fertilizer	Requirement	Availability	Sales
DAP	42.75	53.19	52.85
MOP	17.19	22.79	21.55
UREA	137.11	134.66*	127.92

*About 10.4 LMT of Urea was available in the field godowns at the start of the Kharif 2008 season which has not been included . As such there is no scarcity of fertilizers.

Urea is the only fertilizer under partial movement and distribution control of the Government. Union Government ensures availability of urea at State level and the State Governments are responsible for its distribution within the State. However, the Department of Fertilizers monitors the availability of fertilizers up to district level.

All other fertilizer (Phosphatic and Potassic) *viz.*, DAP, MOP, SSP and NPK etc. are decontrolled / de-canalized since 1992. The availability of Phosphatic and Potassic fertilizers is decided by the market forces of demand and supply.

(c) and (d) During 2007-08, production of Phosphatic fertilizers has declined on account of steep increase in price of raw materials. This decline cannot be attributed to closure of Units.

Relief packages to Bhopal gas victims

806. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has monitored at any time with regard to relief measures implemented by the Madhya Pradesh Government for the victims of 1984 Bhopal gas tragedy;

(b) if so, the details of relief measures implemented so far by the Madhya Pradesh Government and Union Government;

(c) whether the Union Government has yet to pursue the issue of extradition of the absconding Union Carbide officials of DOW Chemicals and yet to revoke the permission given to Reliance to purchase Carbide's technology;

(d) if so, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) whether Government would assure of immediate action in this regard and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) The Government of India had initially sanctioned Rs. 102.00 crore for relief and rehabilitation and financial assistance to the victims of Bhopal Gas Tragedy, from 1985 to 1989. In